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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF FARNHAM.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1938,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF FARNHAM.



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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FARNHAM.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. F. LAWSON (*Chairman*).

MR. C. BINFIELD.

MR. C. E. BORELLI.

MR. J. CHUTER.

MR. C. E. CLARK.

MR. J. EWART.

MR. A. J. FIGG.

MR. F. RAWLINSON.

MR. H. ROTHWELL.

MRS. G. A. STROUD, J.P.

(*Chairman of the Council*).

MR. H. G. HALE

(*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

F. BEDO HOBBS, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

R. M. SARGENT, M.R.SAN.I., M.INST.R.A., M.S.I.A.,
Special Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors:

C. R. HARRIS, CERT. S.I.B.,
Dipl. and Cert. Gen. Hyg.; Dipl. N.F.M.T.A.

N. L. G. TUBB, A.R.SAN.I.

Clerk:

S. J. COLLETT.

Articled Pupil:

S. A. EADE.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year ending December 31st, 1938.

Brightwell House,
East Street,
Farnham,
June, 1939.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Farnham.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of the District during the year 1938.

As regards the health of the District, this has been good, and, apart from a small outbreak of poliomyelitis, which received an unwarranted amount of publicity from the press, the amount of infectious disease has been below the average.

The birth and death rates both show a slight increase over the previous year and, as is to be expected in a neighbourhood of this type, the birth rate is below the average for England and Wales, and the death rate is above the average.

The housing problem has occupied the Council's attention during the year, and the outstanding event was the completion of the new housing estate, consisting of 62 houses, at Wrecclesham.

Owing to the new by-pass road which is in course of construction, a number of working-class dwellings will be demolished, and to replace these a new building site has been purchased on the north side of the town. The Southern Railway have also purchased a site for housing their employees brought to this district by the electrification of the railway.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Sanitary Inspectors for their co-operation in the many difficulties encountered during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. BEDO HOBBS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Urban District of Farnham consists of the Town, with the following villages and districts, namely: Hale, Heath End, Badshot Lea, Weybourne, Runfold, Compton, Upper, Middle and Lower Bourne, Boundstone, Wrecclesham, Rowledge, Dippenhall, Frensham Vale and Gong Hill.

The total area is 9,061 acres, and the Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for the year 1938 was 20,670.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938, was 6,110.

The rateable value is £185,124, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £705.

There are a few minor industries, such as the manufacture of pottery and tiles, but the District is almost entirely a residential one.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are the vital statistics for the Urban District in the year 1938:—

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births (Legitimate) ...	279	140	139
Live Births (Illegitimate) ...	14	7	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...	14.2		
Still Births (Legitimate) ...	8	6	2
Still Births (Illegitimate) ...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total births ...	26.6		
Deaths	265	139	126
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...	12.8		
		Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still).	
Deaths from puerperal causes:—	Deaths.		
No. 29: Puerperal sepsis ...	1		3.3
No. 30: Other puerperal causes	0		0
Total	1		3.3

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	30.72
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	32.25
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	47
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	0

The classified causes of death in the District during the year are as follows:—

Cause of Death.				M.	F.
All causes				139	126
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...			0	0
2	Measles			0	0
3	Scarlet Fever			0	0
4	Whooping Cough			0	0
5	Diphtheria			0	2
6	Influenza			0	1
7	Encephalitis lethargica			0	1
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever			1	0
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			6	3
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...			1	1
11	Syphilis			1	0
12	General Paralysis of the Insane,				
	tabes dorsalis			1	0
13	Cancer, malignant disease			19	28
14	Diabetes			0	5
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...			9	18
16	Heart Disease			42	35
17	Aneurysm			1	1
18	Other Circulatory Diseases ...			4	4
19	Bronchitis			4	1
20	Pneumonia (all forms)			5	3
21	Other Respiratory Diseases ...			5	2
22	Peptic Ulcer			3	0
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) ...			0	0
24	Appendicitis			1	2
25	Cirrhosis of Liver			1	0
26	Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ...			1	0
27	Other Digestive Diseases			2	2
28	Acute and Chronic Mephritis ...			2	2
29	Puerperal Sepsis			0	1
30	Other Puerperal Causes			0	0
31	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth,				
	Malformations, etc.			3	1
32	Senility			1	3
33	Suicide			0	0
34	Other Violence			10	2
35	Other Defined Diseases			16	8
36	Causes Ill-Defined or Unknown ...			0	0

The birth rate, which does not vary very much in this District, shows a slight increase this year, being 14.2 as compared to 15.1 for England and Wales.

There has been an increase in the number of deaths during the year, and the rate of 12.8 per 1,000 population is the

highest recorded since 1922. The rate of England and Wales is 11.6.

The chief causes have been, as usual, heart disease, cancer and cerebral hæmorrhage, which are, in the main, diseases of old age.

It is satisfactory to note that, at the other end of the scale, the death rate of infants is low and that there were no deaths from measles, whooping cough or infantile diarrhœa.

The following statistics regarding the rainfall in Farnham during 1938 were kindly supplied by Colonel G. Chrystie:—

			Actual.	Average.	Difference.
January	...	...	3.34	2.75	+.59
February	...	...	.59	2.28	—1.69
March	...	...	.20	2.13	—1.93
April ...	...	...	.05	2.09	—2.04
May ...	...	...	1.46	2.08	— .62
June ...	...	...	.52	1.97	—1.45
July ...	...	...	1.59	2.39	— .80
August	...	...	1.80	2.51	— .71
September	...	...	1.33	2.10	— .67
October	...	...	3.37	3.23	+.14
November	...	...	4.83	2.79	+2.04
December	...	...	4.00	3.45	+.55
Totals			23.08	29.77	—6.69

The rainfall showed a decrease of 16.08 from that recorded for 1937 and was 6.69 below the average for the District.

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health: DR. F. BEDO HOBBS, B.A., M.D.,
M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

Chief Sanitary Inspector: R. M. SARGENT, M.R.SAN.I.,
M.INST.R.A., M.S.I.A., Special Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors: C. R. HARRIS, Cert. S.I.B., Dipl.
and Cert. Gen. Hyg., Dipl. N.F.M.T.A.; N. L. G. TUBB,
A.R.SAN.I.

Clerk: S. J. COLLETT.

Articled Pupil: S. A. EADE.

LABORATORY.

The examination of pathological specimens is carried out at the Royal Surrey County Hospital. During the year the following specimens were examined:—

Sputa, 10; Throat Swabs, 67; Hæmolytic Streptococci, 9;
Swabs (Vincent's), 3; Cervical Smear and Swab, 1.

Sixty-nine samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, 48 being sent to the National Institute for Research in Dairying, Shinfield, Reading, and 21 to the pathological laboratory of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

AMBULANCE.

The District is still fortunate in having the voluntary services of the St. John Ambulance Association in connection with ambulance work.

During the year they attended 458 cases and covered 5,926 miles.

Each year the volume of work increases, as shown by the number of calls for the past five years: 1934, 267; 1935, 274; 1936, 346; 1937, 372; 1938, 458.

When it is considered that the work is undertaken on a purely voluntary basis by a small band of enthusiasts, the District has reason to be extremely grateful to the gentlemen who continue to give their services in this excellent work.

There are no ambulances attached to either the Farnham County Hospital or Trimmer's Hospital, the only other one in the District being located at the Isolation Hospital and being used solely for infectious cases.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION.

This voluntary service, which is an extremely valuable one, has fortunately only been called upon to supply donors of blood twice in the past year.

This is a branch of A.R.P. work which has not yet been fully developed and which will need to be amplified.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is undertaken under the direction of local District Nursing Associations, one nurse being situated in each of the following areas: Farnham, The Bourne, Hale, Badshot Lea.

The County Council are responsible for nursing maternity cases and provide two nurses for this purpose.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following is a list of the clinics and treatment centres:

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Institute, Rowledge ...	1st and 3rd Mondays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Village Hall, Wrecclesham	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Scouts' Hall, Gravel Hill, Lower Bourne	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Institute, Hale	Fridays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Badshot Lea	2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham	1st and 3rd Fridays, 10 a.m. — noon.
Badshot Lea	2nd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. — noon.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham	1st Tuesday, 5.30 — 7 p.m. 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays, 10 a.m. — noon.
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DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham	1st and 3rd Fridays, 10 a.m. — noon.
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ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Brightwell House, East Street, Farnham	2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday afternoons.
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THE CURATIVE POST.

The enlarged Curative Post was opened on 31st January, 1938. There are now six cubicles, in addition to kitchen, office, sunlight room and spacious exercise room.

This is a considerable improvement and has made the work much easier.

During the year, 7,099 treatments have been given, an increase of 441 over 1937.

HOSPITALS.

FARNHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL.

This Hospital was taken over by the Public Health Department of the County Council on April 1st, 1938. It contains 229 beds and serves a wide area, comprising Bagshot, Windlesham, Camberley, Frimley, Ash, Farnham Urban District, Churt, Tilford, Frensham and part of Hindhead.

The Hospital is well equipped and has an efficient X-ray plant and well-equipped operating theatre. Increasing use is being made of the Hospital, as shown by the fact that the number of cases admitted has risen from 1,013 in 1934 to 1,463 in 1938, and the number of acute cases is steadily increasing.

The number of operations has risen from 97 in 1934 to 200 in 1938, and the number of confinements from 138 in 1934 to 216 in 1938.

TRIMMER'S HOSPITAL.

This Hospital, supported by voluntary contributions, consists of 30 beds, and during 1938 showed a daily average occupation of 20.61. In addition, 60 treatments were given to patients not admitted to the Hospital.

During the year, 432 patients were admitted and 318 operations were performed, including 102 for tonsils and adenoids.

Arrangements have been made with the County Council for the services of a surgeon and anæsthetist with special experience to be available for tonsil and adenoid operations in the case of elementary school children.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

In January the new cubicle blocks were opened. The accommodation now consists of a scarlet fever block of 14 beds, a diphtheria block of 14 beds, 16 single bed cubicles and two cubicles with two beds in each.

A variety of infectious diseases were admitted during the year, and the working arrangements have proved satisfactory.

Application has been made for one of the artificial respirators provided by Lord Nuffield.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

A pamphlet has been prepared giving an account of the activities of the Public Health Department and the various Health Services in the District. These have been available gratis at the various welfare centres, and at the Council offices, public library, etc.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Town's two Water Companies during the year:—

The Urban District Council's Water Undertaking made no extensions, but carried out the following alterations:

The main in St. James' Avenue was renewed and the old 3in. mains in Winton Road, Park Road and Osborne Road were replaced with 4in.

The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year, and the area of supply is approximately two square miles.

Samples are taken for bacteriological examination every month, and for chemical analysis twice a year. The latest reports, which are typical of those received during the year, are as follows:—

Chemical.

Appearance, opalescent and film deposit of mineral particles; colour, yellowish; odour, nil; reaction pH., neutral 7.3; free carbonic acid 2.2; electric conductivity at 20° C., 475; total solids, dried at 180° C., 32.0; chlorine in chlorides, 2.8; alkalinity as calcium carbonate, 20.5; hardness—total, 19.0; temporary, 18.5; permanent, 0.5; nitrogen in nitrates, nil; nitrites, absent; free ammonia, 0.0448; ammoniacal nitrogen, nil; albuminoid ammonia, 0.0060; albuminoid nitrogen, nil; oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F., 0.015; metals, iron 0.045. In solution—0.005, manganese, etc., absent.

Bacteriological.

Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37° C., nil; number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37° C., 1; number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20° C., 4. *Bacillus coli* absent in 100 c.c. *Bacillus Welchii* (*B. Enteritidis Sporogenes*) absent in 100 c.c.

This sample contains a trace of iron and has faint opalescence and deposit. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character, although not unduly so, contains no excess of salinity, and is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity, in which respects it is considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for the purposes of public supply.

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING.

The Wey Valley Water Company has laid 1,256 yards of 3in. mains and 60 yards of 4in. mains, these lengths representing the total of numerous small extensions, the largest being 444 yards of 3in. main in Lower Old Park.

There has been no suspicion of contamination during the year, and samples have been taken fortnightly, the latest reports, which are typical of those received during the year, are as follows:—

Chemical.

Appearance, clear and bright; colour, normal; odour, nil; reaction pH., neutral 7.3; free carbonic acid, 0.9; electric conductivity at 20° C., 240; total solids, 180° C., 16.0; alkalinity as calcium carbonate, 11.0; chlorine in chlorides, 1.1; nitrogen in nitrates, nil; nitrites, absent; hardness—permanent, 2.0; temporary, 9.0; total, 11.0; metals, absent; free ammonia, nil; albuminoid ammonia, nil; oxygen absorbed in four hours at 80° F., nil.

Bacteriological.

Number of bacteria per c.c. on gelatine in three days at 20° C., 10; on Agar in one day at 37° C., 1; on Agar in two days at 37° C., 1. *Bacillus coli* absent in 100 c.c. *Bacillus Welchii* (*B. Enteritidis Sporogenes*), absent in 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright, of normal colour, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron.

The water is of very moderate hardness, contains no excess of aline or mineral matter in solution, and is of a high degree of organic and bacterial purity.

It is, therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for the purposes of public supply.

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING.

Samples were taken from two laundries, which were found to be using well water for use in their trade and for drinking purposes. One was found to be of very good quality and satisfactory in every way, while the other showed strong evidence of pollution.

A notice was at once served, with the result that the premises are now connected to the main supply and the well has been closed.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year, the Western Drainage Scheme totalling 1,570 yards was completed. Approximately 700 yards of the new Frensham Vale Drainage Scheme was completed out of a total of 1,800 yards.

The Council also made extensions of existing sewers totalling some 2,380 yards, excluding sewers constructed by private enterprise for the drainage of estates in course of development or at present developed, and excluding an extension to the sewer at Middle Bourne of 110 yards.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The measures taken last year in preventing the flooding of the meadowland south of the Town continued to be satisfactory, and no complaints were received in this respect.

The Thames Conservancy Board and River Wey Improvement Board carried out dredging and cleaning works at various points in the river during the year, and no flooding occurred.

No cases of pollution were found or suspected, the only action in this respect being informal notices served in four cases on occupiers of cottages adjoining the river to discontinue the practice of depositing old iron and tins in the bed of the stream.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The Council made short extensions to the sewers in several parts of the District, thereby enabling 14 existing premises to connect to the main sewer.

In other cases where properties are within the Statutory distance, but are unable to connect by reason of levels, the existing earth closet system, with collection undertaken by the Council, continued to work satisfactorily. In other cases, cesspools and septic tanks are in use.

Every effort was made to secure connections in as many cases as possible, and this policy will be continued next year by further short sewer extensions.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The tipping of dry house refuse on land off Tilford Road by arrangement with the Surrey County Council was completed, and dumping has now been re-commenced on the 11 acres of land acquired by consent of the Ministry in Guildford Road, Runfold.

No alterations have been made to the scavenging or house and trade refuse removal arrangements.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year, 30 bodies were admitted to the Council's Mortuary in Victoria Road, and a corresponding number of *post-mortems* were performed.

The previous arrangements of allowing bodies to be received from those parts of Hambledon Rural and Guildford Rural Districts coming within the Farnham Police area were continued, and 15 of the 30 bodies received were from these areas.

The building has proved a great asset to the Town by reason of its central but well-screened position, and by its proximity to the Courthouse, where the inquiries are held.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1938.

In accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926, the following classified table is submitted of (a) the number and nature of inspections made during the year; (b) the number of notices served during the year; (c) the result of the services of such notices.

(a) Number and Nature of Inspections during the year:—

Dwelling-houses.

Number inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	516
Number of inspections made, including re-inspections and visits re works in progress	1,633

Other Premises (Inspections and Re-inspections).

1. Slaughter-houses	895
2. Meat and Other Food Shops	733
3. Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	151
4. Bakehouses	63
5. Factories	154
6. Shops	58
7. Offices	33
8. Camping Sites	8
9. Mushroom Farms	6
10. Visits re Cases of Infectious Disease	46
11. Visits re Miscellaneous Complaints	343
12. Visits re Complaints under Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	21
13. Visits re Disinfestation of Premises	21

(b) Notices Served:—

Number of preliminary notices served under the Public Health, Housing and other Acts	613
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(c) Result of Notices:—

1. Preliminary Notices:—			
(a) Complied with in 1938	549		
(b) Work not commenced	15		
			564
2. Statutory Notices:—			
(a) Complied with in 1938	48		
(b) Work not commenced	1		
			49

Table showing nature of defects or nuisances discovered and remedied, as required by the Ministry of Health:—

1. Defective Cottages repaired	423
2. New drains provided to dwellings	29
3. Defective drains and cesspools made sound or cleared	83
4. Defective rooms cleansed and renovated ...	373
5. Defective roofs repaired	87
6. Defective gutters or downpipes repaired or replaced	62
7. New sanitary accommodation provided ...	11
8. Smoke nuisances abated	2
9. Lavatories converted to water carriage system from conservancy system	4
10. Earth closets cleansed or repaired	8
11. Back yards paved and repaired	31
12. Conditions of mushroom farms improved ...	2
13. Rivers and streams nuisances abated	2
14. Portable dustbins provided	68
15. Accumulations of refuse or manure removed	14
16. Pigstyes, fowlhouses, etc., cleansed	4
17. Premises connected to main water supply ...	3
18. Premises cleansed under Factories Act ...	23
19. Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops cleansed, repaired or reconstructed	15
20. Dampness in cottages remedied	315
21. Damp and defective floors repaired or relaid	239
22. Rooms disinfected following infectious disease	93
23. Cesspools abolished	2
24. Houses generally repaired	421
25. Rooms disinfected	47
26. Premises cleansed and repaired under Shops Acts	7
Number of legal actions taken:—	
Under Public Health Acts	0
Under Infectious Disease (Notifications) Act, 1875	0
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924	0

SHOPS.

The periodical and systematic inspection of the 343 shops in the District was continued during the year and conditions generally found to be satisfactory, the chief difficulty experienced being that of sanitary accommodation in small lock-up shops with one employee of each sex, where difficulty is found in securing alternative accommodation under a certificate of exemption.

OFFICES.

An inspection was made at the end of the year of all offices in the District, and a card index system is now in use.

The premises inspected numbered 37, and the lighting, ventilation, heating, sanitary accommodation and general conditions were found to be most satisfactory.

In two cases, notices were served upon occupiers to carry out renovations and minor repairs, and these were at once complied with. No cases of overcrowding were discovered, and in almost every case the comfort and welfare of workers are well provided for.

These inspections have been necessitated by the inclusion of all places of clerical appointment as "workplaces" under the Public Health Act, 1936.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There has been no serious nuisance from this source during the year.

Two informal notices were served, one in respect of a laundry chimney and one in respect of continued burning of refuse. Both nuisances were abated and no further complaints received.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Swimming Baths in the District now number five: the Council baths off South Street, one at the Frensham Heights School and two private baths at The Bourne and Moor Park; the last-named is not now in use.

The Council's Swimming Baths proved to be increasingly used during the summer season. No alterations have been found necessary in the methods of purification and aeration employed, and the water was maintained at a high standard throughout the season, as will be seen from the analyst's reports given below.

By arrangement with the Surrey Education Committee, secondary and elementary schools continued to attend for swimming instruction, the numbers showing a further increase on the total for 1937. A number of private clubs also made regular reservations for use of the Baths.

The Reports are:—

TOWN BATHS.

Bacteriological.

- (1) Quantitative: The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 22° C. for three days is found to be 5 per ml. The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 27.5° C. for two days is found to be 3 per ml.

- (2) Qualitative: *B. coli* not found in 100 c.c.; Streptococci not found in 30 c.c.

The sample shows very few micro-organisms and excremental types are not found in it.

The water is in excellent condition for bathing.

(Signed) M. CAUDELET,

Secretary,

Clinical Research Association.

Bacteriological.

- (1) Quantitative: The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 22° C. for three days is found to be 18 per ml. The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 37.5° C. for two days is found to be 8 per ml.
- (2) Qualitative: *B. coli* not found in 100 c.c.; Streptococci not found in 30 c.c.

The bacterial content is quite low and the water is of excellent quality for swimming purposes.

(Signed) M. CAUDELET,

Secretary,

Clinical Research Association.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The number of cases of infestation from this source in the District has for many years remained consistently low.

During the year, five isolated cases in different parts of the District were discovered and dealt with, one only of these being in a Council house. This case and one other were caused by the occupiers buying infested mattresses and furniture at a sale. These were destroyed and the houses disinfested, and no further trouble has occurred.

Of the remaining three cases, two were in very old cottages which have been periodically infested for some years, and the remaining case was due to the uncleanly conditions existing.

All cases were treated by spraying with "Zaldecide" and subsequent fumigation, and this method proved highly satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

The general standard of construction, lighting and ventilation of the Schools remained good and unchanged during the year.

An attempt was made to get the Wrecclesham Senior Boys' and Girls' School connected to the main sewer, these Schools being the only ones in the District still using earth closets. The Surrey Education Committee were approached, but any action was deferred until the spring, pending the proposed centralisation scheme coming into force, when this item would be included in the large scale alterations to be effected.

The new Girls' Grammar School in Menin Way is under construction and will be completed in 1939. The building incorporates the most ideal and hygienic ideas in its construction and will be a vast improvement on the existing accommodation in West Street.

HOUSING.

During the year, the new housing estate of 62 houses at Wreclesham was completed. The selection of tenants was done in such a way that all outstanding cases under the Housing Act overcrowding survey were dealt with, this being the primary object of the scheme.

In those cases where houses, especially Council houses, have become overcrowded by reason of children attaining the age of 10 years, every effort has been made to deal with these by transferring them to larger houses.

It is gratifying to note that at the end of the year there were no known cases of overcrowding, although conditions are such, and changes so frequent, that almost constant supervision is required to keep records up to date.

The general standard of repair of properties throughout the District is good, and considerable improvements were effected without the necessity of legal proceedings.

The following is a list of inspections made during the year:—

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—*
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) 516
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,633
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 267
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 615
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 39
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 440
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—
 - Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 412

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	39
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ...	39
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners ...	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	1
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding:—	
(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ...	0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	4
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	53

FACTORIES AND OUTWORKERS PREMISES.

Following the coming into operation of the Factories Act, 1937, on July 1st, a detailed inspection was made of all premises coming within the Act.

As will be seen from the tables given below, the number of premises included totalled 99, of which 50 were mechanical factories and 43 non-mechanical factories, the remaining six being works in progress.

The most common defects were lack of sufficient cleansing and the need for redecoration of premises. In a few cases, the sanitary accommodation was found to be inadequate or unsuitable.

Only one case was referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories for attention, and all notices served were complied with by the end of the year.

The returns from premises registered under the Act showed that there were 14 outworkers employed, of whom six were contractors. Of the total, nine outworkers have premises within the District, and these were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Information as to the inspections made and defects found is given in the following table:—

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Total.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	50	58	14	—
Factories without mechanical power	43	88	22	—
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construc- tion, but not in- cluding outworkers' premises)	6	8	2	—
Total	99	154	38	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	23	23	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	7	7	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Other offences ...	3	3	—	—
Total ...	38	37	1	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

Nature of Work.	Instances.		Notices Served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel—				
Making, etc. ...	8	1	—	—
Cleaning and washing ...	5	—	—	—
Household linen ...	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ...	1	—	—	—

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

MILK SUPPLY.

The dairies and cowsheds have been inspected at frequent intervals during the year.

There are 20 cowkeepers, 22 dairymen, 22 retail purveyors and 11 wholesale traders on the register.

In July and August, samples from all the sources of supply were examined bacteriologically. The results were not as satisfactory as they have been in the past, and further special inspections of the farms were made in all cases where the report was not up to standard. Samples taken in October showed considerable improvement in the bacteriological reports.

The results of the samples taken during the year are summarised hereunder:—

Grade.				Total Samples Satis- Taken. factory.	Not Satis- factory in all respects.	Unsatis- factory.
Pasteurised	...	...	...	2	2	—
Accredited	...	...	...	21	13	5
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	1	1	—
Ordinary	...	...	...	45	14	19
Totals	...	...	...	69	30	24
						15

The number of pasteurising plants in the District remains at two. Both worked efficiently throughout the year.

ADULTERATION.

The County Council is responsible for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

During the year samples have been taken, with the following results:—

Articles.	Analysed.			Adulterated or Deteriorated.			Prosecutions.	Convictions.
	Formal.	Informal.	Total.	Formal.	Informal.	Total.		
Milk	59	10	69	7	—	7
Cream	1	—	1	—	—	—
Butter	1	—	1	—	—	—
Lard	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sugar	4	2	6	—	—	—
Sausages	4	—	4	—	—	—
Confectionery and								
Jam	1	—	1	1	—	—
Spirits	3	—	3	—	—	—
Totals	74	12	86	8	—	8

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The food shops of the Town and District were regularly inspected during the year, together with all premises where foodstuffs were prepared. Special attention was paid to refrigerators, iceboxes and conveyances used for the transport of foodstuffs.

The supplies of meat, fish and game exposed for sale in the District were of good quality, and generally free from disease, as will be seen from the following statistical tables.

Two of the registered slaughterhouses were provided with electric light during the year, thus considerably improving the existing conditions.

It is interesting to note that the number of animals killed within the District is steadily increasing, especially pigs. During the first three days of Christmas week, no fewer than 192 pig carcasses were inspected.

There are six registered and two licensed slaughterhouses in the District, and their scattered nature renders it impossible to inspect all carcasses at the time of slaughter.

Tables showing the incidence of disease and foodstuffs condemned are submitted herewith:—

Meat and Food Inspection, 1938.

	Cattle (excluding Cows).	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Totals.
Approximate number killed	...	—	118	1,663	2,341	4,379
Number inspected	...	—	92	1,123	2,007	3,408
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	7	33	41
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	—	—	.62	1.13	1.2
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	1	—	6	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	4	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	—	1.08	—	.48	.41

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED, 1938.

Commodity.	tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Pork	2	8	1	4
Beef	—	—	1	22
Veal	—	1	2	1
Mutton and Lamb	—	—	—	15
Chilled Beef	—	2	—	—
	2	11	5	14
Smoked Bacon	—	1	4	—
Victoria Plums	—	—	1	11
Sardines	—	—	—	6
Corned Beef	—	—	—	12
		1	6	1
Total	2	13	3	15

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

The most noteworthy occurrence during the year was a small outbreak of anterior poliomyelitis.

Fourteen cases were notified, of which four proved fatal.

An isolated case occurred in Hale in January but, with the exception of a mild case at Runfold in July, no further cases were reported until the end of that month when four cases were notified within a few hours of each other. Three of these were of the polio-encephalo-myelitis type and all rapidly proved fatal. These patients were aged 2, 11 and 30 years respectively, lived in different localities and, as far as could be ascertained, had had no connection with each other, nor was there any common source of infection from travelling conveyance, clothing, food or drink, etc.

Sixteen days after this explosive onset another very severe case occurred in the Town. This was a young nursemaid who died of respiratory failure on the third day.

No further cases occurred for 15 days when five cases were notified in the Town within 11 days. There was then an interval from September 11th until October 31st, when an isolated severe spinal type was notified from Hale.

The last case notified on December 21st could not strictly be associated with the other cases as he was a boy who undoubtedly received his infection from the small outbreak at Wellington College.

A glance at the annexed summary of the cases shows the diversity in age, severity, mode of onset and result.

Nine were young children, two adolescents and three young adults. Two fatal cases showed severe cerebral as well as spinal symptoms.

Seven showed severe spinal lesions, while the remaining five cases were comparatively mild.

Although no connection or common source of infection could be traced in the case of the three fatal cases which occurred together at the end of July, in other instances there was definite evidence of spread by direct contact. Case 11 was the aunt of Case 3 and looked after the brother and sister of Case 3 when he was ill. These children were probably carriers and infected her. She almost certainly conveyed the infection to her neighbour's child, Case 9, and to her own child, Case 10, as well as developing it herself later.

Cases 3 and 6 occurred in the same house, Case 3 being rapidly fatal, and Case 6 being very mild and making a complete recovery.

No obvious source of infection could be discovered in the other cases.

In several of the children the most pronounced symptoms at the onset were abdominal, consisting of pain and diarrhoea. In the majority of the cases there was an initial period of malaise with slight pyrexia before the onset of the paralysis, which began to manifest itself at times varying from two to five days from the onset.

In two cases the temperature became normal and the patient appeared to have fully recovered before the paralysis appeared. Three cases showed paralysis of the facial nerve.

TREATMENT.

All cases, with the exception of one who was too ill to be moved and died at home, were treated in hospital. At first the local Isolation Hospital was used, but in view of the severity of several of the cases, arrangements were later made for the admission to hospitals such as Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital, which have special facilities, such as mechanical respirators, for dealing with such cases.

Precautionary measures taken in the home consisted of thorough disinfection of the room and clothing used by the patient, isolation of child contacts for three weeks, instructing all contacts to gargle and rinse their nasal passages with a solution of permanganate of potash. In a few instances the nose and throat were sprayed with a solution of zinc sulphate by the patient's doctor, but this was found to be rather painful and was not adopted as a routine.

Advice to avoid crowded assemblies was given to the public through the medium of the local press, and the cinemas loyally co-operated by cancelling several performances specially arranged for children.

Case.	Date of Onset.	Name.	Age.	Address.	Type of Disease.	Remarks.
1.	1.1.38	V.N.	10	Hale	Severe spinal.	Onset with severe pain in back, neck and head. On third day developed severe degree of paralysis and nearly died from respiratory muscle failure. Back muscles gradually recovered after six months and now is very well except for residual paralysis of both pectoralis major muscles and thenar muscles.
2.	16.7.38	P.W.	6	Runfold	Mild spinal.	Onset with mild pyrexia, headache and vague pains like 'flu. Paralysis of right leg and anterior abdominal muscles on fifth day. Transferred to Moreland Hall, Alton. Complete recovery except for slight weakness of abdominal muscles.
3.	29.7.38	K.W.	2	Farnham Town	Very severe polio-encephalitis.	Onset with abdominal symptoms and diarrhoea. On third day evidence of meningeal irritation, twitching of face and fits. Died on third day. <i>P.M.</i> —Severe acute lesions seen in medulla, pons and spinal cord. Infection transmitted to rhesus monkey by Dr. Perdrau, of Medical Research Council.
4.	29.7.38	L.C.	11	Weybourne	Very severe polio-encephalitis.	Onset with headache and diplopia, followed in 36 hours by delirium and unconsciousness. Paralysis of all limbs and left side of face. Convulsions. Died in 48 hours. <i>P.M.</i> —Acute lesions of medulla and spinal cord.

Case.	Date of Onset.	Name.	Age.	Address.	Type of Disease.	Remarks.
5.	31.7.38	P.S.	30	Farnham	Very severe spinal type.	Pain in back and felt queer, July 25th; well until 31st, when she complained of pain in neck. After 24 hours rapid onset of paralysis of limbs and died of respiratory failure 36 hours from onset. <i>P.M.</i> —Intense cedema throughout cord, especially in cervical region.
6.	4.8.38	M.H.	3	Farnham Town (same house as Case 3)	Very mild spinal type.	Onset with abdominal symptoms, pain and diarrhoea, later headache and drowsy. Back rigid and tender. Some paralysis of back muscles. Complete recovery.
7.	15.8.38	I.S.	14	Farnham Town	Very mild spinal type.	Onset with sore throat, headache and pain in neck. Paralysis second day; respiratory muscles rapidly affected and death occurred on third day.
8.	30.8.38	J.C.	2	Farnham Town	Severe spinal type.	Onset with pyrexia and vomiting, followed by pain in right foot. Back and legs paralysed on third day. Treated at Great Ormond Street Hospital. Legs still paralysed.
9.	1.9.38	B.C.	1	Farnham Town	Mild spinal type.	Onset with fever and vomiting, thought to be teething. Two days later could not sit up and had slight paralysis of right lower limb and more extensive paralysis of left leg, the hip, knee and foot muscles being involved. Treated at Treloar's Hospital. Recovered except for some residual paralysis of left leg.

Case.	Date of Onset.	Name.	Age.	Address.	Type of Disease.	Remarks.
10.	8.9.38	P.C.	1½	Farnham Town (next door to Case 9)	Very mild spinal type.	Onset with fever and vomiting. Weakness of legs noticed on second day and unable to sit up. Complete recovery, except for slight weakness of left ankle.
11.	11.9.38	D.C.	20	Farnham Town (mother of Case 10 and aunt of Case 3)	Severe spinal type.	Onset with severe headache and pain in back with loss of blood per vagina. Onset of paralysis fourth day affecting both legs, abdominal, back and lower intercostal muscles with right facial paralysis. No bladder control. Weakness of arm muscles with paralysis of left triceps and deltoid. Later had a miscarriage.
12.	11.9.38	D.W.	5	Farnham	Moderately severe spinal type.	Onset with headache and vomiting. Back and legs paralysed on third day. Treated at Great Ormond Street and Treloar Hospital. Considerable recovery, but left with some weakness of back muscles and erectors of the feet.
13.	31.10.38	E.V.	20	Hale	Severe spinal type.	Complete paralysis of both legs with weakness of lower rectus and lateral abdominals. Probably will be left with residual paralysis of legs.
14.	21.12.38	J.D.	17	Farnham	Moderately severe spinal type.	Contact with cases at Wellington College. Paralysis of legs on third day following very mild pyrexia. Recovering.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Apart from poliomyelitis, the number of cases of other infectious disease was rather below the average.

Twenty cases of scarlet fever were notified. All these were of a mild type and several were nursed at home.

The same number was reported last year, previous to which there has been a steady decrease since 1933.

The number of cases of diphtheria was 26, as compared with 46 last year, and was chiefly due to two small outbreaks in the Farnham County Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year, the number of children of pre-school age immunised against diphtheria was 15 and the number of children of school age was 250.

The one shot method which had not given very satisfactory results was replaced by two injections of .1 and .5 c.c. of A.P.T. in all children up to 12. Over that age or in a few specially selected cases, three injections of T.A.F. were given.

Infectious Diseases, 1938.

The following is a list of notifiable diseases classified in age groups reported during 1938:—

	At all Ages	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & over.	Cases admit'd to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	29	2	—	3	4	10	6	—	3	1	—	—	27	—
Diphtheria	...	25	3	4	3	—	4	—	5	3	—	—	—	25	2
Pneumonia	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	—
Encephalitis Teth.	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	5	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	13	—	2	2	1	—	3	1	1	3	—	—	—	13*	3
Para-Typhoid B.	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malaria	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

* One case (No. 7) included in my report is not included here as, although the case occurred in Farnham, she was notified from her home address, which was just outside the District.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the District during 1938:—

Age	Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	1	—	2	2	—	1	1	—
5—15	...	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
15—25	...	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35	...	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	...	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	...	10	4	5	6	6	4	1	—

There have been no non-notified tuberculosis deaths during the year, and the efficiency of notification of tuberculosis in the area is reasonably good.

The number of cases has remained about the same during the past ten years, though in view of the increased population this must be regarded as a proportionate decrease.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

This Committee has done useful work and been of considerable help to six cases in providing nourishment and coal. One boy was given clothing to go to a special school, and money to allow his mother to visit him.

Work at the Swimming Baths was provided for another patient.

